

May 15, 1999

Commissioner
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
12420 Parklawn Drive
Rockville, MD 20857

3929 '99 MAY 19 P3:12

Melissa Waz
P.O. Box 23212
Tampa, FL 33623

Dear Commissioner:

I am writing you because I am in desperate need of your help. I am aware that the Farm Sanctuary has filed a petition with you to prevent the slaughter and use of "downed" animals for human food supply. I am urging you to act on docket number 98P-0151/CP1.

I am only a small voice, trying to speak for many helpless animals. Unfortunately, I became aware of these tragedies first-hand when I visited a slaughter house in Dodge City, Kansas. My heart has remained saddened since I saw several "downed" cows being dragged to slaughter with chains. A few were even left to die slowly in pain because they were too ill to be 'profitable'.

I am aware that existing USDA regulations define downed animals- those unable to stand- as "diseased" and the law prohibits the slaughter of "diseased" animals for human food. I wish there was something I could personally do change this. You, on the other hand, CAN. Won't you PLEASE support the petition that argues the current practice of slaughtering downed animals for human food must stop?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Melissa Waz

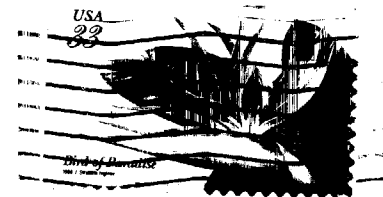
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98P-0151

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